

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY USSR (Crimean Oblast/Dagestan ASSR)

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SUBJECT Population Transfers in Crimean and
Caucasus Regions

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- 25X1X 1. The pre-war (1939) population of Crimea was between 800,000 and one million inhabitants. Of these, 55 percent were Tartars, 15 percent Ukrainians, 15 percent Great Russians, 7 percent Greeks, 3 percent Germans, 2 percent Jews, and the remaining 3 percent Armenians, Italians, and Albanians.

2. After the reoccupation of Crimea by the Soviets in 1944, the following population transfers were effected:

- a. Tartars: All were deported to Uzbek SSR and Kazakh SSR.
- b. Ukrainians and Great Russians: All who had contact with or collaborated with the Germans were imprisoned. Some 2500 to 3000 were held at Vetlag camps.
- c. Greeks: All were deported to Uzbek and Kazakh SSR's.
- d. Germans: Most had been deported early in 1940. In 1944 the rest were sent to Soviet labor camps. All Volga Germans ages 15 to 60 were mobilized in June 1941 and enrolled in labor battalions, while their families were deported to the Kazakh SSR and the Far East. About 1500 to 2000 Volga Germans forming two labor battalions were at No. 12 Vetlag camp during 1942-1943. In 1946 an order was issued declaring these Germans as war prisoners. Source states the Germans were obliged to sign statements indicating they would willingly settle in the area of the Vetlag camps. All signed and were given permission to bring their families to the area. Source says Volga Germans were fed better than other laborers.
- e. Jews: No deportations were reported.
- f. Armenians, Italians, and Albanians: These groups were treated in the same manner as were the Germans.

3. There was no general deportation of the Don and Terek Cossacks. However, nearly 2000 were charged with being collaborators and were sent to labor camps, some after being tried, others without trials. In some cases, trials were held later at the camps and some Cossacks were set free.

- 25X1X 4. [REDACTED] the following about other groups:

- a. Kalmyks: No deportations reported.
- b. Cherkess: All exiled to Kazakh SSR in 1942-1944.
- c. Kabardin: No deportations reported.
- d. Balkars: No deportations reported.
- e. Karatsai: All exiled toward Kazakh SSR.

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- f. Ossetians: No deportations reported.
g. Cherchen-Ingush: All exiled to Uzbek and Kazakh in 1943-1944.
5. The present population of the Dagestan ASSR is estimated at from 800,000 to 1,000,000. It is inhabited by 20 to 25 ethnic groups, the most important of which include:

- a. Davlini: About 400,000 Moslems of the Caucasian race.
- b. Koumiki: About 150,000 Moslems of the Mongolian race.
- c. Avars: About 65,000 Moslems of the Mongolian race.
- d. Gortsy: About 30,000 Jews.
- e. Persians: About 50,000 Moslems of the Caucasian race.
- f. Turkis: About 80,000 Moslems of the Caucasian race.
- g. Maghali: About 65,000 Moslems of the Mongolian race.

None of these peoples were deported from the Dagestan ASSR.

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